

### IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of reconciling records of resource consumption at a plurality of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption sites for incorporation into aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at a target site, the method comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting and recording ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at ~~flowing~~ resource consumption sites, wherein the resource consumption is a consumption of electricity that is transmitted through a transmission system, and wherein the transmission system serves multiple types of electricity generation companies;
- b. reconciling records of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption between the resource consumption sites and the target site by:
  - i. retrieving records from the resource consumption feeder and interim control points;
  - ii. comparing at least one of:
    - (a)[[.]] resource consumption totals in the records from the resource consumption feeders with [[the]] resource consumption totals in the aggregated records at the target site, and
    - (b)[[.]] a first total number of resource consumption records forwarded from the resource consumption feeders with [[the]] a second total number of resource consumption records aggregated at the target site;
  - iii. issuing a notification, if an error is discovered; and
  - iv. if no errors are detected, continuing comparing records until all records are reconciled; and
- c. aggregating the records of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption into aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at the target site.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at the target site comprise billing records.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising aggregating reconciled records of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption into aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at the target site.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising aggregating ~~[[the]]~~ all records of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption into aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at the target site and thereafter reconciling the aggregated records at the target site.

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising reconciling ~~[[the]]~~ resource consumption records in a reconciliation session ~~[[comprising]]~~ by:

- a. logging ~~[[the]]~~ a reconciliation session start time of a reconciliation session,
- b. retrieving ~~[[the]]~~ a last reconciliation session start time, ~~[[and]]~~
- c. issuing a notification~~[[,]]~~ of a logging session status, ~~[[and]]~~
- d. ending the reconciliation session if an error is discovered; and
- ~~[[d]]~~ e. if no errors are detected, continuing comparing records until all records are reconciled, issuing a report, and logging session status.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the multiple types of electricity generation companies include a coal fired company, a gas fired company, a hydroelectric company, and a wind turbine company. ~~wherein the flowing resource comprises electrical kilowatt hours.~~

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
automatically reconciling resource consumption records at feeder sub systems, nodes, interim nodes and billing subsystems that are located between the resource consumption sites and the target site. ~~wherein the flowing resource comprises telephone connect time.~~

9. (canceled)

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the aggregate business records are chosen from the group consisting of transfer records, invoices, and units of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption.

11. (currently amended) A processor system configured and controlled for reconciling ~~flowing~~ resource consumption records, said processor being between a plurality of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption sites and a ~~flowing~~ resource consumption record aggregation target site, for incorporation into aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at the target site, by a process comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting and recording ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at ~~flowing~~ resource consumption sites, wherein the resource consumption is a consumption of gaseous hydrocarbons being transferred internally within an integrated petrochemical refinery;
- b. reconciling records of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption between the resource consumption sites and the target site by:
  - i. retrieving records from the resource consumption feeder and interim control points;
  - ii. comparing at least one of:
    - (a)[[.]] resource consumption totals in the records from [[the]] resource consumption feeders with the resource consumption totals in [[the]] aggregated records at the target site, and
    - (b)[[.]] a first total number of resource consumption records forwarded from the resource consumption feeders with [[the]] a second total number of resource consumption records aggregated at the target site;
  - iii. issuing a notification, if an error is discovered; and
  - iv. if no errors are detected, continuing comparing records until all records are reconciled; and
- c. aggregating [[the]] records of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption into aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at the target site.

12. (currently amended) The processor system of claim 11, wherein the aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at the target site comprise billing records.

13. (currently amended) The processor system of claim 11, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a reconciliation process comprises aggregating reconciled records of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption into aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at the target site.

14. (currently amended) The processor system of claim 11, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a reconciliation process comprises aggregating the records of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption into aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at the target site, and thereafter reconciling the ~~aggregated~~ aggregate business records at the target site.

15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) The processor system of claim 11 wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a reconciliation process comprises reconciling the records in a reconciliation session ~~comprising~~ by:

- a. logging ~~[[the]]~~ a reconciliation session start time of a reconciliation session,
- b. retrieving ~~[[the]]~~ a last reconciliation session start time, ~~[[and]]~~
- c. issuing a notification~~[[,]]~~ of a logging session status, ~~[[and]]~~
- d. ending the reconciliation session if an error is discovered; and
- ~~[[d]]~~ e. if no errors are detected, continuing comparing records until all records are reconciled, issuing a report, and logging session status.

17-19. (canceled).

20. (currently amended) The processor system of claim 12, wherein the aggregate business records are chosen from the group consisting of transfer records, invoices, and units of resource consumption.

21. (currently amended) A signal bearing medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-

readable instructions executable by a digital processing system to reconcile records of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at a plurality of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption sites for incorporation into aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at a target site, by a method comprising the steps of:

- a. collecting and recording ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at ~~flowing~~ resource consumption sites, wherein the resource consumption is asphalt that is transferred internally within units of an integrated petroleum refinery;
- b. reconciling records of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption between the resource consumption sites and the target site by:
  - i. retrieving records from the resource consumption feeder and interim control points;
  - ii. comparing at least one of:
    - (a)[[.]] resource consumption totals in the records from [[the]] resource consumption feeders with [[the]] resource consumption totals in [[the]] aggregated records at the target site, and
    - (b)[[.]] a first total number of resource consumption records forwarded from the resource consumption feeders with [[the]] a second total number of resource consumption records aggregated at the target site;
  - iii. issuing a notification, if an error is discovered; and
  - iv. if no errors are detected, continuing comparing records until all records are reconciled; and
- c. aggregating [[the]] records of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption into aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at the target site.

22. (currently amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 21, wherein the aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at the target site comprise billing records.

23. (currently amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 21, wherein the method comprises aggregating reconciled records of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption into aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at the target site.

24. (currently amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 21, wherein the method comprises aggregating the records of ~~flowing~~ resource consumption into aggregate business records of the ~~flowing~~ resource consumption at the target site and thereafter reconciling the aggregated records at the target site.

25. (currently amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 21, wherein the method comprises reconciling the records in a reconciliation session comprising

- a. logging ~~[[the]]~~ a reconciliation session start time of a reconciliation session,
- b. retrieving ~~[[the]]~~ a last reconciliation session start time, ~~[[and]]~~
- c. issuing a notification~~[[,]]~~ of a logging session status, ~~[[and]]~~
- d. ending the reconciliation session if an error is discovered; and
- ~~[[d]]~~ e. if no errors are detected, continuing comparing records until all records are reconciled, issuing a report, and logging session status.

26-27. (canceled)

28. (currently amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 21, further comprising:  
automatically reconciling resource consumption records at feeder sub systems, nodes, interim nodes and billing subsystems that are located between the resource consumption sites and the target site. ~~wherein the flowing resource comprises telephone connect time.~~

29. (canceled)

30. (currently amended) The signal bearing medium of claim 22, wherein the aggregate business records are chosen from the group consisting of transfer records, invoices, and units of resource consumption.